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NOTES AND NEWS

IMPATIENS PARVIFLORA IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.—Impatiens parviflora DC., a native plant of Central Asia, has become established in Europe and eastern Canada. It has not, however, been reported from western North America, although it has now been collected from two places in southwestern British Columbia. Moreover, the population at one of these locations has maintained itself for at least twenty years. The first collection was made in 1949 (J. W. Eastham 16,477, UBC). Eastham found a small plant growing in sandy soil between the beach and the road at Spanish Banks, a popular beach on the north side of Point Grey peninsula, Vancouver, B.C. He noted on the herbarium sheet that there were several, more robust, plants growing in the wooded area on the opposite side of the road. When this area was revisited in 1972, the species was well established in the woods, but no plants were found on the beach side of the road (Barkworth 527, WS).

In 1972, I found this species at Lions' Bay, 8 miles north of Horseshoe Bay, West Vancouver, approximately 15 miles due north of Spanish Banks (Barkworth 513, 523, WS). Here, too, the plants were growing beside a road, highway 99, and near a developed area, Lions' Bay community. The road has been cut into the hillside, creating a steep gravel bank on the east side. Several plants of Impatiens parviflora were growing on a small gravel pile located at the foot of this bank. They were more abundant on the east side of the gravel pile where they received some degree of protection. Apart from this topographic protection the area is very open. In addition the road bank is not very stable. Fifty feet from the I. parviflora population there were frequent small falls of gravel, even on a dry summer day. The highway department presents yet another hazard. Several sections of the road are being improved at the present time, so the site may be destroyed by highway work crews. It appears, therefore, that the success of the species in this area will depend, in large part, on its becoming established in a 'safer' location before the present site is destroyed.—MARY E. BARKWORTH, Department of Botany, Washington State University, Pullman 99163.